

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2005-390-C - ORDER NO. 2006-83
FEBRUARY 8, 2006

IN RE: Application of Palmetto Utility Protection Service, Inc. for Assignment of the 811 Abbreviated Dialing Code to be Implemented in South Carolina.) ORDER GRANTING) UNITED TELEPHONE) COMPANY OF THE) CAROLINAS' PETITION) TO INTERVENE OUT OF) TIME
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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of a Petition to Intervene Out of Time (Petition) in the above-captioned proceeding from United Telephone Company of the Carolinas (United). The present proceeding before the Commission was established upon the Application of Palmetto Utility Protection Services, Inc. (PUPS) requesting that the 811 abbreviated dialing code be implemented in South Carolina for all telecommunications providers in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's ruling.

Upon establishment of this docket, the Commission's Docketing Department instructed PUPS to publish a Notice of Filing regarding this docket in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas of South Carolina. The purpose of the Notice was to inform interested parties of the present proceeding before the Commission and of the manner and time in which to file the appropriate pleadings for participation in the proceeding. In the present case, pleadings for participation in this docket were to be filed

on or before January 23, 2006. The hearing on this matter is scheduled for April 26, 2006.

On January 26, 2006, which was after the return date established by the Notice of Filing, United filed a Petition to Intervene Out of Time by which United seeks to intervene in the proceeding with full rights to participate as a party of record. In its Petition, United asserts that it currently uses 811 for internal company purposes, and as a result, United states that this Docket has a direct and immediate impact on the operations of United. According to United, one of the parties to this Docket served discovery on United thereby United's interests in this proceeding are even further implicated. United states its belief that United's participation in this Docket is necessary to protect its interests and to provide the Commission with additional input on how PUPS' application will affect the telecommunications industry.

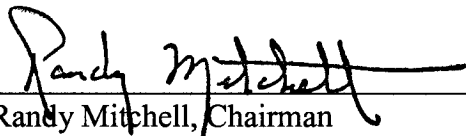
Furthermore, United maintains that good cause exists for the Commission to allow United's intervention out of time due to United's justifiable interest in the proceeding, the fact that the deadline for intervention has passed by only three business days and the fact that PUPS' testimony has not yet been filed. Lastly, United asserts that granting its intervention out of time will not prejudice other parties to this Docket.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission finds and concludes that the Petition of United to intervene out of time should be granted. The Commission discerns no prejudice to any party by granting United's Petition.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

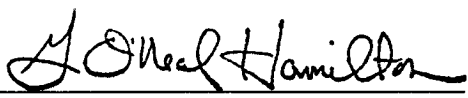
1. United Telephone Company of the Carolinas' Petition to Intervene Out of Time is granted.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)